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MAILED

MAY 27 2003

Office of the Director  
Group 3600

In re application of  
Ruben G. Duran  
Application No. 09/916,927  
Filed: July 27, 2001  
For: ESCROW ACCOMMODATION  
SYSTEM

DECISION ON REQUEST  
FOR WITHDRAWAL OF  
ATTORNEY

This is a decision on the request filed on March 11, 2003, under 37 CFR 1.36 and MPEP 402.06, requesting permission to withdraw as the attorney of record in the above-identified application.

The request is **NOT APPROVED** as **MOOT**.


Under 37 CFR 1.36 an attorney may withdraw only upon application to and approval by the Commissioner. It should be noted that a withdrawal is effective when approved, not when filed. Besides giving due notice to his or her client and delivering to the client all papers and property to which the client is entitled as specified under 37 CFR 10.40, approval of such a request requires that the following conditions be met:

- A) Each attorney of record must sign the notice of withdrawal, or the notice must contain a clear indication of one attorney signing on behalf of another, because the Office does not recognize law firms;
- B) A proper reason for the withdrawal as enumerated in 37 CFR 10.40(b) or subsection (1)-(6) of 37 CFR 10.40(c) must be provided; and
- C) If withdrawal is requested in accordance with 37 CFR 10.40(c) above, there must be at least 30 days between approval of the withdrawal and the later of the expiration date of a time period for reply or the expiration date of the period which can be obtained by a petition and fee for extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a).

The request to withdraw as attorney in the above-identified application is not approved as moot because the attorney making the request does not now have, and apparently never has had, power of attorney in this application.

There is no record of power of attorney ever being given to the attorney making the request. The original declaration does not include a power of attorney and no separate paper conferring power of attorney to the attorney making the request was filed.

Since the attorney making the request does not have power of attorney, the correspondence address will not be changed (MPEP 405, 37 CFR 1.33(a)(2) and (b)).

  
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RAR/tpl: 5/21/03